

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference NO. 7630/WO/PCT		FOR FURTHER ACTION see Form PCT/ISA/220 as well as, where applicable, Item 5 below.	
International application No. PCT/EP2004/011606	International filing date (day/month/year) 15/10/2004	(Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year) 31/10/2003	
Applicant NESTLE WATERS MANAGEMENT & TECHNOLOGY			

This International Search Report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This International Search Report consists of a total of 06 sheets.

☒ It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

1. Basis of the report

a. With regard to the language, the International search was carried out on the basis of the International application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

☐ The International search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the International application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).

b. ☐ With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the International application, see Box No. I.

2. ☒ Certain claims were found unsearchable (See Box II).

3. ☐ Unity of invention is lacking (see Box III).

4. With regard to the title,

☒ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☐ the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

5. With regard to the abstract,

☐ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☒ the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box No. IV. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this International search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. With regard to the drawings,

a. the figure of the drawings to be published with the abstract is Figure No. 1

☒ as suggested by the applicant.

☐ as selected by this Authority, because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.

☐ as selected by this Authority, because this figure better characterizes the invention.

b. ☐ none of the figures is to be published with the abstract.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/EP2004/011606

Box No. IV Text of the abstract (Continuation of Item 5 of the first sheet)

The invention concerns a container comprising a body (1) formed by walls (2) and a bottom (3), having in its greater section a dimension d^1 and a neck (4) with an internal diameter d^2 , said container being made from a semicrystalline PET, the body of said container comprising at its bottom at least three feet spaced from each other and being integral with said body, wherein for the body, the ratio weight of the walls on weight of the bottom is comprised between 3 and 4 and wherein the ratio volume of the body of the container, expressed in ml, per gram of PET of the body is comprised between 80 and 120.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

 International Application No
 PCT/EP2004/011606

 A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
 IPC 7 B65D1/02

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

 Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
 IPC 7 B65D

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	FR 2 830 844 A (PERRIER VITTEL MAN ET TECHNOLO) 18 April 2003 (2003-04-18) the whole document	1-17
A	US 3 733 309 A (ROSEVEARE R ET AL) 15 May 1973 (1973-05-15) claim 1	1,6,17
A	US 5 398 826 A (TAKAKUSAKI NOBUYUKI ET AL) 21 March 1995 (1995-03-21) column 7, line 63 - column 8, line 6	1,6,17

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

- "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
 "E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
 "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
 "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
 "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
 "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
 "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
 "A" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

28 January 2005

Date of mailing of the international search report

04/02/2005

Name and mailing address of the ISA

 European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
 Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl.
 Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Bridault, A

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

Continuation of Box II.2

Claims Nos.: -

The claims relate to a container defined inter alia by reference to the following parameter:

ratio weight of the walls over weight of the bottom.

The use of this parameter in the present context is considered to lead to a lack of clarity within the meaning of Article 6 PCT. It is impossible to compare the parameter the applicant has chosen to employ with what is set out in the prior art, since the parameter is not used in the prior art. Moreover, the value claimed for this parameter can result from different factors, such as the relative thicknesses or the relative extent (surface area) of the bottom and walls. The lack of clarity is such as to render a meaningful complete search impossible. Consequently, the search has been performed while disregarding this parameter, and focused instead on containers with a thin bottom.

The applicant's attention is drawn to the fact that claims relating to inventions in respect of which no international search report has been established need not be the subject of an international preliminary examination (Rule 66.1(e) PCT). The applicant is advised that the EPO policy when acting as an International Preliminary Examining Authority is normally not to carry out a preliminary examination on matter which has not been searched. This is the case irrespective of whether or not the claims are amended following receipt of the search report or during any Chapter II procedure. If the application proceeds into the regional phase before the EPO, the applicant is reminded that a search may be carried out during examination before the EPO (see EPO Guideline C-VI, 8.5), should the problems which led to the Article 17(2) declaration be overcome.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/EP2004/011606

Box II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of Item 2 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:

2. ☒ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
see FURTHER INFORMATION sheet PCT/ISA/210

3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of Item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.

2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.

3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:

4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/EP2004/011606

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date		Patent family member(s)	Publication date
FR 2830844	A	18-04-2003	FR	2830844 A1	18-04-2003
			BR	0213182 A	31-08-2004
			CA	2462952 A1	24-04-2003
			WO	03033361 A2	24-04-2003
			EP	1436203 A2	14-07-2004
			HR	20040330 A2	31-10-2004
			US	2004222238 A1	11-11-2004
<hr/>					
US 3733309	A	15-05-1973	AR	207328 A1	30-09-1976
			AT	323004 B	25-06-1975
			BE	760398 A1	16-06-1971
			CA	957624 A1	12-11-1974
			CA	987868 A2	27-04-1976
			CH	584144 A5	31-01-1977
			DE	2062283 A1	19-08-1971
			DE	2065094 A1	22-06-1972
			DE	2065425 A1	22-11-1973
			DE	2065427 A1	15-11-1973
			DK	143060 B	23-03-1981
			FR	2073847 A5	01-10-1971
			GB	1341846 A	25-12-1973
			GB	1341848 A	25-12-1973
			GB	1341845 A	25-12-1973
			JP	57050179 B	26-10-1982
			JP	57050178 B	26-10-1982
			JP	52011334 B	30-03-1977
			JP	49003073 B	24-01-1974
			NL	7018361 A , B	21-06-1971
			NL	7501733 A	30-05-1975
			NL	7501734 A	30-05-1975
			SE	7409139 A	11-07-1974
			US	3849530 A	19-11-1974
			US	3778214 A	11-12-1973
<hr/>					
US 5398826	A	21-03-1995	EP	0521212 A1	07-01-1993
<hr/>					